

WRITTEN QUESTION P-4447/06  
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to the Commission

Subject: Russia-Georgia relations

Russia's recent aggressive and unprecedented behaviour towards Georgia in the form of a suspension of land, sea and air transport links and a threat to use force against the independent Georgian state is a deeply worrying indication of Russia's plans to curb the country's sovereignty.

On 4 October, the State Duma passed a resolution on the 'anti-Russian and antidemocratic policy of the Georgian authorities' supporting the introduction of sanctions against Georgia, in particular of a financial and economic nature. As a result of these actions, Georgia faces greater economic pressure, which affects the Georgian people directly and the authorities indirectly. The suspension of transport links also has an indirect impact on Georgia-Armenia relations, as Georgia provides the main transport route for Armenia. It should further be stressed that Russia's aggressive stance is damaging to security in the region.

In view of recent events in Georgia and the possibility of a further worsening of Russia-Georgia relations and regional destabilisation:

1. What measures does the Commission intend to take to resolve the current Russia-Georgia crisis?
2. What steps will the Commission take to bring an end to the transport blockade imposed on Georgia?
3. Does the statement by Javier Solana on 4 October refusing the Georgian President's request for consideration to be given to the replacement of the Russian forces stationed in Georgia with European peacekeeping troops and for EU monitoring of Georgia's border, as is the case for Moldova, reflect the opinion on this matter of the European Union as a whole?